APRIL

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

APRIL MEETINGS
(for Members and Their Guests)

DATES & TIMES: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 12
Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and and Thursday, April 12-13.

PLACE: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

SPEAKER: Judson E. Vandevere

SUBJECT: "THE UNSINKABLE SEA OTTER"

Mr. Vandevere was Jacques Cousteau's scientific advisor on this fine color film which was telecast on September 26 last year. It is our privilege that he will be on hand to introduce it.

At one time there were vast colonies of these endearing, frolicsome animals but the beautiful glossiness of their coats was their undoing. The range was from Lower California to Siberia but they were decimated by avaricious hunters and thought to be extinct south of Amchitka. Fortunately, there was a reappearance some thirty years ago.

Mr. Cousteau's company and cameras ranged from the Aleutians to Monterey Bay. In the Arctic otters were filmed both on land and in the frigid water. Later, photographers moved south to the California coast and recorded them among undersea forests of kelp, made friends on occasion, and were able to film their courting and mating rituals.

Once again, the sea otter is "under the gun" from a group of professional fishermen who consider the aquatic mammal's eating habits a threat to their livelihood. Currently, a battle is joined between conservationists, scientists and concerned civilians and what they consider to be the "enemy" of the sea otter.

In this fine American Broadcasting Company film for television, Cousteau is once again concerned with the "chain of life" and the need to maintain a delicate balance in all things. The appeal of the sea otter drives the lesson forcibly home.

Mr. Vandevere is a biological investigator at Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove and is most active with the Friends of the Sea Otter organization.

Three meetings as indicated and your membership card is your admission. For the matinee performance, present it to the door attendant at the entrance of Cowell Hall *only*. You will be asked to show it once again at the auditorium entrance. For the evening meetings, ingress is at both the main entrance, Cowell Hall, and the rear Planetarium entrance off Middle Drive.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"HEAVEN'S ABOVE!" continues in the Theatre of the Stars through April 23. This sky show is an interesting interweaving of the interplay of religion and astronomy over the centuries.

Performances daily at two with evening shows, Wednesday through Sunday, at eight. Extra matinees, Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and during Easter vacation week, at 3:30. Admission: Anyone 18 and over, $1.00. Anyone 17 and under, 50c.

Coming April 27: "MAN AND THE MOON."

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE STUDY PRINTS" continues in Lovell White Hall throughout the month. 180 photographs comprising 16 different sets of teaching aids produced jointly by McGraw-Hill Films and the Academy with Dr. Edward S. Ross, Curator, Department of Entomology in charge of the extensive project. Individual sets are on sale during the exhibit — an exclusive at the CAS during this period.

"MINERAL CRYSTALS," recent gifts to the Academy's scientific collections, and spectacular they are. You'll find "Quartz with tourmaline," presented by Mr. Jerry Wentling; "Microline," Mr. Edward R. Swoboda; "Quartz (variety amethyst and hematite)," a gift of Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Land; and "Laumonite" donated by Friends of Mineralogy and the Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation. This exhibit continues in Cowell Hall indefinitely near the geophysical globe.

"GALAPAGOS" continues in Cowell Hall.

SPECIAL MUSICAL EVENT

"MIKE NOCK MUSIC." Continuing its successful policy of presenting unusual musical evenings in Morrison Planetarium, Saturday and Sunday evenings, April 29-30, will be devoted to a program of origial compositions for electronic synthesizer, Fender piano, tape recorder and percussion — performed by Mike Nock, Arp synthesizer, and Glen Cronkite on percussion. 8:00 p.m. Tickets $2 each available at the Planetarium office or by mail.

NEWS and NOTES . . . . . .

IN FEBRUARY, the National Science Foundation announced the approval of a grant to the CAS in the amount of $31,100 in support of a research project, "Evolution and Biology of the Scorpionfish Subfamily Sebastinae," to be carried out jointly by two principal investigators, Dr. William N. Eschmeyer, Associate Curator and Chairman, Department of Ichthyology, CAS, and Dr. Lo-chai Chen, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, San Diego State College. Effective date of this grant was March 1, 1972 and will extend over a period of two years.

The project will make basic contributions to systematics and evolution, ecology, and zoogeography to this important group of rockfishes, known locally as rockcods. The study will treat over a hundred species.

IN CONNECTION with the September 1972 tours to Africa, a series of five lectures will be given on Wednesday evenings in April and May. Members will soon receive a brochure announcing this special seminar series.

A REMINDER THAT University Extension, UC Berkeley, is offering a weekend conference May 5-7 at the Academy (Morrison Auditorium) devoted to "The Enchanted Isles . . . The Galapagos." A descriptive brochure has already been mailed to the membership. Dr. George E. Lindsay, Director, will be program chairman for the three meetings and among the featured speakers will be Dr. Robert T. Orr, Associate Director. For an additional brochure, Bay Areans should telephone 642-1061.

RAYMOND L. FINEHOUT

August 26, 1933 March 4, 1972

For those of us who worked with him, it is scarcely possible to accept the fact of his early, tragic death. Shock gives way to grief for he was a gentle man. Our hearts go out to his family and to his friends.

SPLASH!!

Save Tuesday, May 16

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

for the Docent Council's

FISH FARE

FUN & FOOD FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

WE CONTINUE to thank our lucky stars, providence, kismet, whatever, for the wonderful windfalls which occur. Most recently in a continuing chain is the acquisition of ten fine mounted specimens to be added to the collection in the Exhibits Department. They are the gift of Mr. Johnnie White who conceived the trading post called "Horns of the Hunter" located in Hayward, California. Because of changes in that enterprise, Mr. White and his confreres could no longer accommodate the large, handsome animals which they possessed and kindly shared them with the Academy and with the Josephine D. Randall Junior Museum.

Now in our possession are: a family of mountain goats — a ram, a ewe and a kid — a most important addition; two black bears which are a missing ingredient in our North American bear collection; a fine example of brown bear; two polar bears; and two Arizona peccaries which we have never had before. All in all, it is probably the largest single collection of mounted animals added since Simson African Hall opened in 1934 — valuable and irreplaceable.

AS OF THIS writing, there are limited spaces available on the charter flight to Rome scheduled for September 9. Return is scheduled from Rome for October 5 with optional pick-ups at Frankfurt and London. The price: $289.00 round trip. For further information contact Bryan International Travel, Inc., 57 Post Street, San Francisco, telephone 986-0967. Please refer to your February NEWSLETTER for additional info for both the Mediterranean cruise and the trip to Africa. Space is currently available on those also.

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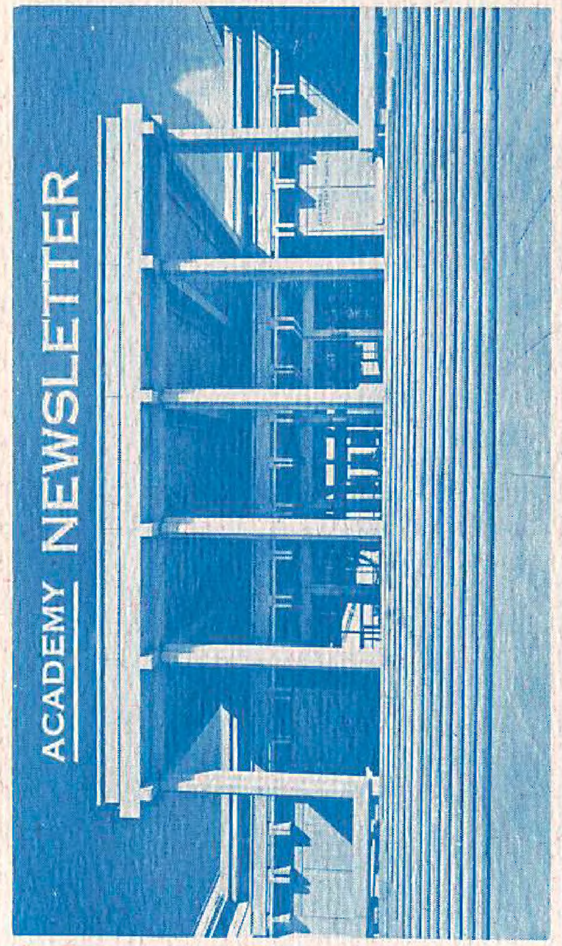

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